

Purgatory Chasm



WHERE THE WALLS ARE 80 FEET HIGH

EVER been in Purgatory?

Many persons have declared their expectation of going there eventually, but there are thousands who have already made the trip, have enjoyed the experience and have come away wondering why more people do not go there.

The Purgatory in question is located in the town of Sutton, Mass., and those who have visited the spot are convinced that the commonwealth has missed an opportunity to become famous for having within its confines one of the strangest and most interesting freaks of nature in the world.

Purgatory, in Sutton, is a chasm.

Its admirers declare that it is more attractive and remarkable even than the Flume in the White mountains, and they are back of a movement to have the commonwealth acquire the property and make a reservation out of it for the benefit of the whole people.

Purgatory chasm has for years been a source of wonder to geologists, for they cannot agree as to what caused it. A large number of them seem to think that at some time, eons ago, a portion of the earth at this point dropped down out of sight, leaving a great chasm whose base is filled with giant boulders and deep caves.

Until a few years ago this chasm, situated in the midst of a forest of pine, hemlock and spruce, was a favorite outing spot for people in Worcester and surrounding towns, but as the roads to it were not kept in good condition the visitors decreased until now it has practically been forgotten except by a few enthusiasts.

Explored by Commission.

Led by Arthur E. Seagrave of Uxbridge, who is assistant attorney general of the commonwealth, they have been endeavoring for several years to have the legislature take an interest in the matter of preserving the natural wonder, and finally succeeded this year in securing an appropriation of \$100 to be used for an investigation of the matter by the state forestry commission. This commission, which is composed of the state forester, Frank W. Rane, Harold Parker and Harvey N. Shepard, with Charles O. Bailey as secretary, has completed its investigation. Not one of them had ever seen Purgatory chasm before.

"I was amazed," said Mr. Bailey when he returned to Boston. "It ac-

tually awed me, it was so majestic, so wonderful. In some ways it resembles the Lost River chasm in Vermont, and to my mind is more interesting than the Flume in New Hampshire. After going nearly a mile through the woods you suddenly come upon this freak. There are stones weighing 50 tons at least that have been hurled about. Some of them stick out at least 15 feet from the sides of the chasm, 40 feet or more in the air. There are caves where ice remains much of the summer, and at the end of the chasm is a wonderful cave, on the floor of which is an immense slab of stone that looks just like a giant's coffin. It is called the Devil's Cave.

"The vegetation there is remarkable. Great trees grow apparently from the solid rock, their roots often going up 10 to 15 feet over the bowlder, then turn down over it to reach the soil. If a balloonist should start from the Rocky mountains and land at this spot, he would think it was a part of the Rockies. Speaking as a private citizen, I believe it would be a great shame to let a few dollars stand in the way of preserving this great natural wonder for the people of Massachusetts."

Some Great Caverns.

"Hell's Coal Bin" is one of the largest caverns in Purgatory, not far from the northern entrance. It would hold 25 persons easily. The "Devil's Ice Box" is another great cavern, its ceiling lined with icicles until the middle of June. "Pulpit Rock" is a wedge-shaped piece 40 feet high, from which many a sermon has been preached by the unordained.

For all its ruggedness, the trip through Purgatory chasm may be made by women, although it is not a place for silk hosiery and thin-soled pumps.

Some of the rocks in the chasm are as large as a bungalow, and the mass of bowlders extends far into the earth. It is possible for one to go down into great crevices until well out of sight below the surface, and in other places rocks may be dropped into other holes, and they rattle from bowlder to bowlder until the sound of their downward progress is lost in the depths.

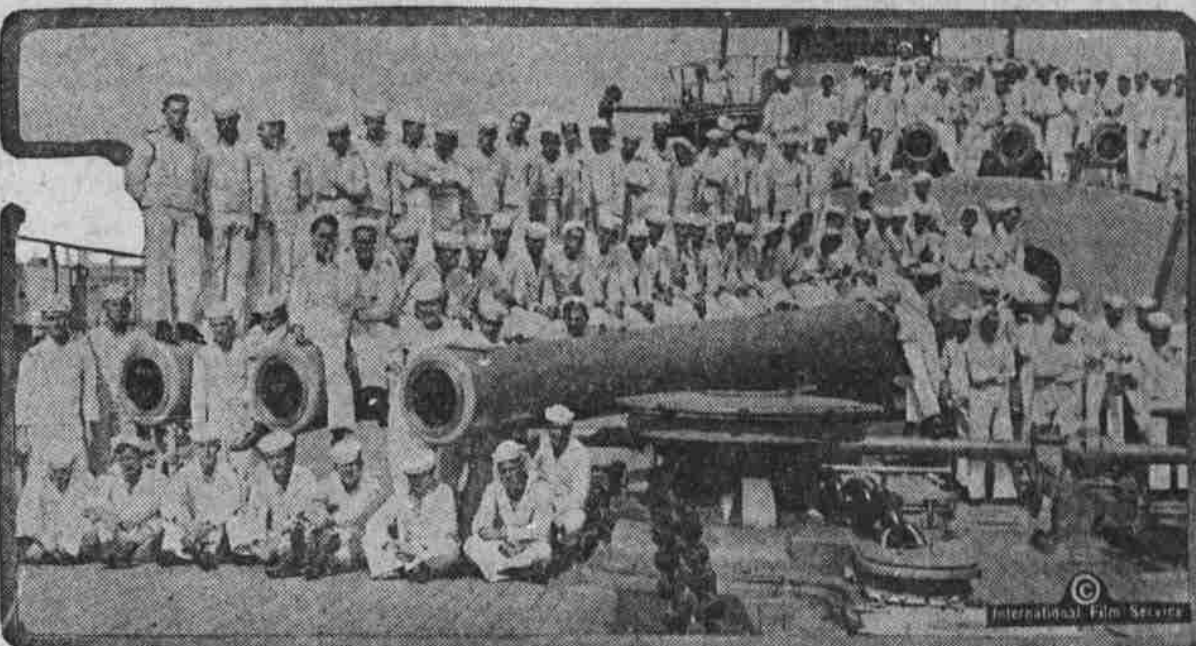
In spite of the ravages of forest fires in this section, the virgin wood surrounding the chasm for more than a mile has not been harmed.

THIRTY THOUSAND AMERICAN TROOPS IN REVIEW



Down at the Mexican border recently 30,000 American troops were reviewed by the commanding officers. It was the longest line of United States soldiers seen since the review of the Grand Army in Washington at the close of the Civil war.

BATTLESHIP THAT MADE RECORD IN TARGET PRACTICE



Battleship Pennsylvania in the New York navy yard for minor alterations just after its big guns had made the record of five out of twelve hits firing at a range of 11 miles.

KING GEORGE WATCHING BOMBARDMENT



King George of England at the front watching the effect of a bombardment of an enemy position.

CARRANZA GIVING A RIFLE LESSON



First Chief Carranza wants all the Mexican students to know how to handle a rifle, so he has instituted rifle practice in the National Preparatory school in Mexico City, and other schools. He attended the first practice shoot and showed the students that he is no slouch with the rifle himself.

FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

NATION HAS BEEN AWAKENED TO GREAT NEED.

Prevention of Industrial Accidents and Casualties in Conflagrations is the Object of Association of National Scope.

Is the bitterness of a dozen years ago passing out of industry? Are employers becoming more humane? Is the public conscience awakening to the sin of omission as well as commission? Is the human element receiving recognition as the most precious asset of our nation?

"Our state pays the salaries of more than a hundred game and fish wardens to protect the beasts of the fields and the fowls of the air and the fishes of our streams. What does it contribute toward the protection of the workers in the industries?" asked a labor organizer in a public meeting.

Ask the question today and the answer will come from the national government at Washington, from every state capital, from almost every city hall, from every church and school, and, probably the truest barometer of all, from thousands of our largest employers, and from the best-posted industrial leaders.

Nor does the movement stop with the industrial accident. Twin cause of sorrow and misery of industrial accident, fire takes toll in mine explosion and conflagration, but more often in the home. In Chicago last year 300 persons were seriously injured by burns or scalds. One-half of this number died, a majority of whom were little children. An association of national scope has taken this matter in hand and is accomplishing wonderful results.

Railroads and accidents were almost synonymous terms a dozen years ago. Last year the managers of 312 railroads reported to the government that not one passenger lost his life through collision or wreck. Industrial corporations reported a reduction from 37 to 70 per cent in number of accidents and an even larger percentage in reduction of fatal accidents.

Last year a dozen governors of middle western states made proclamation of Fire Prevention day—usually setting the date on October 9—the anniversary of the date of the famous O'Leary-bovine incident at Chicago. Accident Prevention day was proclaimed in a hundred cities and in a thousand industries. This year two great agencies, the National Fire Protection association and the National Safety council, have joined forces, and Fire Prevention day will hereafter be known as Fire and Accident Prevention day, being inaugurated by national proclamation by President Wilson.

More than a score of governors have indicated their intention of joining in the movement through proclamations. Hundreds of chambers of commerce will take part and two thousand industries will set aside some portion of their activity toward making the day a success.

The spirit of co-operation in accident and fire prevention now pervades every department of public and private activity. The national government, through the department of labor and the bureau of mines, is accomplishing a splendid work, and the hundreds of thousands of dollars expended in educational work is probably the best known and appreciated of all our governmental functions. Every state in the Union has made a start, and in a score or more the work is well under way. A hundred or more municipalities have well-developed departments of public safety, while street traffic regulations, clean-up campaigns and similar public responsibilities are now cheerfully accepted by even the smaller cities and villages.

The spirit of the up-to-date employer was summarized by a hard-headed Wisconsin business man a few days ago: "If the organization of our workmen into safety inspection committees had not prevented a single accident, the change in attitude which the safety work has brought about on the part of the officers toward the men, and the change of attitude of the workmen toward the company has more than repaid us for our efforts." By carefully safeguarding machinery, accidents were decreased one-third.

"Who burns to death in the American home?" asks H. W. Forster, a prominent official of the National Fire Protection Association. "The husbands, fathers and big brothers? Not often. The wives and mothers and the children, especially the little children. In hundreds of homes all over our fair land each year there comes the crushing sorrow of a dead mother or child, burned to death, in almost every case, because of the criminal disregard which we as a nation have for the most elemental principles of safety from fire. Each year we lose through this agency almost 1,000 of our most precious assets—our children."

"Fire causes 5,000 deaths, renders 20,000 people homeless, and causes a loss estimated at almost \$300,000,000 a year. Industrial accidents take toll of 25,000 lives each year and cause 700,000 injuries, involving a loss of a month or more time from work." Two-thirds of all fires and a like number of industrial accidents are preventable. "One day for humanity" is the motto of Fire and Accident Prevention day. Stop the fires and accidents in your homes as well as in the shops and the mines, or on the streets. "Be careful. Think safety."

GENERAL PRESAN



General Presan is one of the prominent commanders of the armies of Roumania.

After the Attack.

Five o'clock. Sudden calm. We hesitate, surprised a little, like the hare after the passage of the hunter. We raise our heads and inspect the horizon. Yes, it is really over. We crawl out of our holes and walk around a bit.

We climb down into the ravine at the bottom of which there runs a little stream, colored with blood. Never mind. We are thirsty. We drink of this water, and fill our canteens. We gather together our dead. Alas, there are many of them! The stretcher bearers carry away the wounded. We deepen our shelters, and link them together in a sort of line of trenches. We must be ready to defy any other attack.—Louis-Octave-Philippe, in The Atlantic.

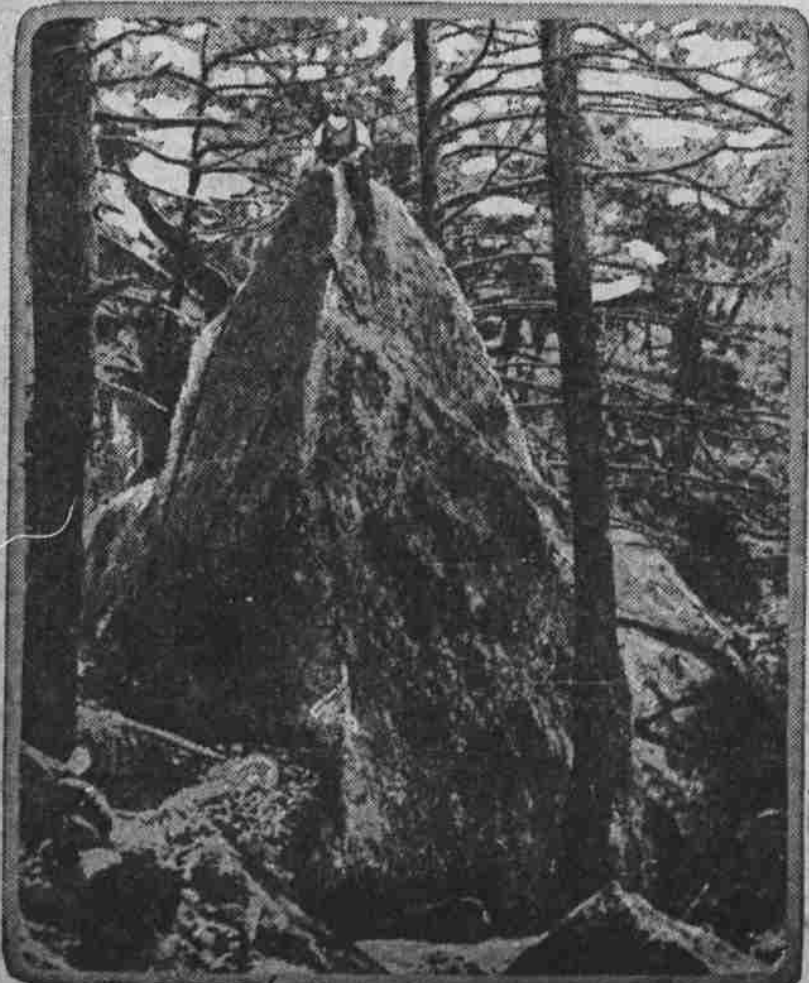
Philosophical Groom.

"So your nephew, Judson Lopper, was married last week?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Gap Johnson of Rumpus Ridge. "Jud sorter played a joke on a widder lady."

"But he did not appear to be able to support himself?"

"No. But he 'lowed that it was just as easy to fail to support two as one."—Kansas City Star.



PULPIT ROCK